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TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By: _____ /Aaron Hokamura/ _____

PATENT
Attorney Docket No.: 082386-000100US
Client Reference No.: MED-A0208P-US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Jouji KOKUZAWA et al.

Application No.: 10/536,563

Filed: December 2, 2003

For: METHOD FOR CULTURING
NEURAL STEM CELLS USING
HEPATOCYTE GROWTH FACTOR

Confirmation No.: 7075

Examiner:

Art Unit:

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR §1.97 and
§1.98**

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The references cited on attached form PTO/SB/08A and PTO/SB/08B are being called to the attention of the Examiner. A copy of US Patent Publication (reference AA) is not provided, in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR §1.98(a)(2). Copies of references AB - AE are enclosed. It is respectfully requested that the cited references be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and the references be made of record therein and appear among the "references cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

The references were cited in an International Search Report in a corresponding PCT Application. A copy of the Search Report is provided herewith.

As provided for by 37 CFR §1.97(g) and (h), no inference should be made that the information and references cited are prior art merely because they are in this statement and no

representation is being made that a search has been conducted or that this statement encompasses all the possible relevant information.

Applicant believes that no fee is required for submission of this statement. However, if a fee is required, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct such fee from the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 20-1430. Please deduct any additional fees from, or credit any overpayment to, the above-noted Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

/Kevin Bastian/

Kevin Bastian
Reg. No. 34,774

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP
Two Embarcadero Center, Eighth Floor
San Francisco, California 94111-3834
Tel: 415-576-0200
Fax: 415-576-0300
KLB:ath
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|---------------------------------|---|----|---|------------------------|------------------|
| Substitute for form 1449A&B/PTO | | | | Complete If Known | |
| | | | | Application Number | 10/536,563 |
| | | | | Filing Date | December 2, 2003 |
| | | | | First Named Inventor | Kokuzawa, Jouji |
| | | | | Art Unit | |
| | | | | Examiner Name | |
| Sheet | 1 | of | 1 | Attorney Docket Number | 082386-000100US |

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------|--|---|
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Document Number | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
| | AA | US 2002/0164309 A1 | 11-07-2002 | Carpenter | |

| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | |
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| | | Country Code ² | Number ⁴ | | | |
| AB | WO | 99/11758 | A2 | 03-11-1999 | Cytotherapeutics, Inc. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | WO | 00/47238 | A1 | 08-17-2000 | The Schepens Eye Research Institute, Inc. and The Salk Institute for Biological Studies | <input type="checkbox"/> |

| NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|---|--|--|--|--|
| Examiner Initials * | Cite No. ¹ | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. | | | | |
| | AB | KARP, Sharon L. et al.; "Epithelial differentiation of metanephric mesenchymal cells after stimulation with hepatocyte growth factor or embryonic spinal cord"; <i>Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A.</i> , 91:5286-5290 (June 1994) | | | | |
| | AE | KOKUZAWA, Jouji et al.; "Hepatocyte growth factor promotes proliferation and neuronal differentiation of neural stem cells from mouse embryos"; <i>Molecular and Cellular Neuroscience</i> 24:190-197 (2003) | | | | |

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|--------------------|-----------------|
| Examiner Signature | Date Considered |
|--------------------|-----------------|

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.